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CORRECTION

It has always been the practice of this journal to leave to reviewers entire freedom in the expression of their opinions respecting books which have been entrusted to them. To interfere with such freedom is to substitute the opinion of a managing editor for that of a reviewer chosen for a special competence, in a particular field, which the managing editor cannot pretend to possess, and is inappropriate to the conduct of a journal which has no doctrinal line of "editorial policy" to maintain—no policy but to give catholic admittance to all varieties of historical opinion. It is not, however, the intention of the *Review* to include in its book-notices judgments upon the ability or standing of the writers of books reviewed, except in so far as these may be inferred from the criticisms of the books themselves, the proper subject-matter of such contributions.

In a review of Mr. Edward Porritt's *Evolution of the Dominion of Canada*, on p. 287 of our last issue, the signaling of several passages declared to be erroneous is preceded by the statement that "Mr. Porritt's familiarity with Canadian history is hardly such as to justify him in writing about it". The remark was intended by the reviewer to be prefatory to the recital of errors, and to be taken in close connection therewith, quite as if the sentence had ended with the additional words, "as witness the following passages, to wit". The managing editor so understood the statement. It has however been pointed out to us that some readers may, by considering it apart from all context, have taken it as a general declaration, not founded on the book. Such readers might justly regard it as violating the rule of practice described above. In that case we should wish to offer our sincere apologies for the ambiguity (for which the reviewer shares our regret) and for our inadvertence in publishing a statement open to misconstruction if not taken in what we conceive to be its natural sense. Mr. Porritt's reading in Canadian history is known to us to be extensive.

Again, the statement that "Everywhere he [Mr. Porritt] relies on secondary authorities, not always of a trustworthy nature", is to be taken as expressing the reviewer's judgment that such reliance is to be found in all parts of the book (as when one says, for instance, "Everywhere in the city one finds wooden houses"), and we should wish to apologize if any reader has thought the sentence to imply that no use had been made of primary authorities, for in fact a great many, perhaps most, of Mr. Porritt's citations are to sources of that class.

J. F. JAMESON,
Managing Editor.